REMARKS

Claim 34 has been cancelled. Claims 21-32, 66, 67, 69 and 70 remain pending in the present application. Claims 21 and 26 have been amended. New Claims 69 and 70 have been added. Basis for the amendments can be found throughout the specification, drawings and claims as originally filed.

The undersigned would like to thank Examiner Lugo for the courtesies extended to him during the personal interview on November 15, 2005. At the interview, an agreement was reached. The Examiner conceded that above Claim 21 overcame the art of record.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

The Examiner has rejected Claims 21, 22, 26, 27 and 30 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) alleging them to unpatentable over Zeindlhofer (U.S. Patent No. 1,623,610).

Claim 1 further defines the rail to have an arcuate surface spanning from one side of the rail to the other. Also, the latch is adapted to mate with the arcuate surface of the rail from one side to the other side. Further, the base, two side walls and two flanges surround the sides of the rail.

As was pointed out at the interview, the Zeindlhofer reference fails to disclose or suggest these features. Applicants disagree with the Examiner's statement that Zeindlhofer discloses that the channel has an arcuate base surface and that the rails have an arcuate surface. Applicants believe that Zeindlhofer discloses planar surfaces on the channel as well as having a planar base. However, as was agreed at the interview, above Claim 21 overcomes the Zeindlhofer reference. Zeindlhofer fails to disclose or suggest Claim 21 as now amended.

Claims 22-31 and 66 and 67, which depend from Claim 21, are now believed to be patentably distinct over the art cited by the Examiner.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER §103

The Examiner has rejected Claims 23, 24, 25, and 31 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) in view of Zeindlhofer further in view of Frydenberg (U.S. Patent No. 4,576,307) (Claim 23) and Zeindlhofer further in view of Weavers (U.S. Patent No. 4,153,178)(Claims 24, 25, and 31).

The Frydenberg and Weavers references fail to overcome the shortcomings of the Zeindlhofer reference. Accordingly, as mentioned above, Zeindlhofer fails to disclose or suggest Applicants' invention. The combination cited by the Examiner would likewise fail to disclose or suggest Applicants' invention.

The Examiner has objected to Claims 28, 29, 66 and 67.

New Claim 69 is Claim 28 rewritten in independent form. New Claim 70, similar to Claim 29, depends from Claim 69. Accordingly, Applicants believe independent Claim 69 and dependent Claim 70 to be patentably distinct over the art cited by the Examiner.

In light of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants would submit that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants would respectfully request the Examiner to pass the case to issue at his earliest possible convenience. Should the Examiner have any questions regarding the present application, he should not hesitate to contact the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted

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